

# Liquid Gold: California's Water

#### **California Education and the Environment Initiative**

Approved by the California State Board of Education, 2010

#### The Education and the Environment Curriculum is a cooperative endeavor of the following entities:

California Environmental Protection Agency
California Natural Resources Agency
Office of the Secretary of Education
California State Board of Education
California Department of Education
California Integrated Waste Management Board

#### **Key Leadership for the Education and Environment Initiative:**

Linda Adams, Secretary, California Environmental Protection Agency
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Andrea Lewis, Assistant Secretary for Education and Quality Programs, California Environmental Protection Agency
Mark Leary, Executive Director, California Integrated Waste Management Board
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#### **Key Partners:**

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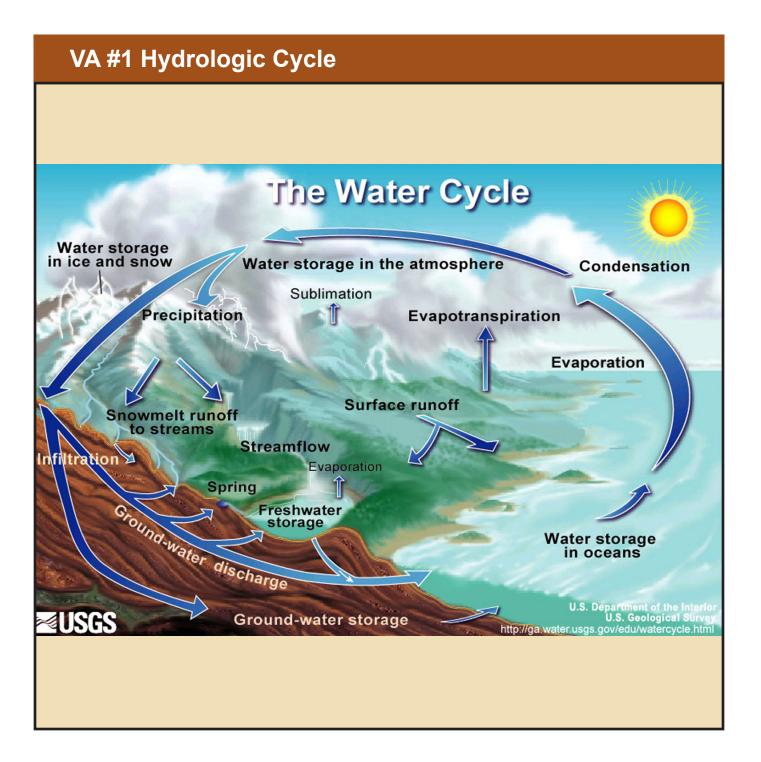
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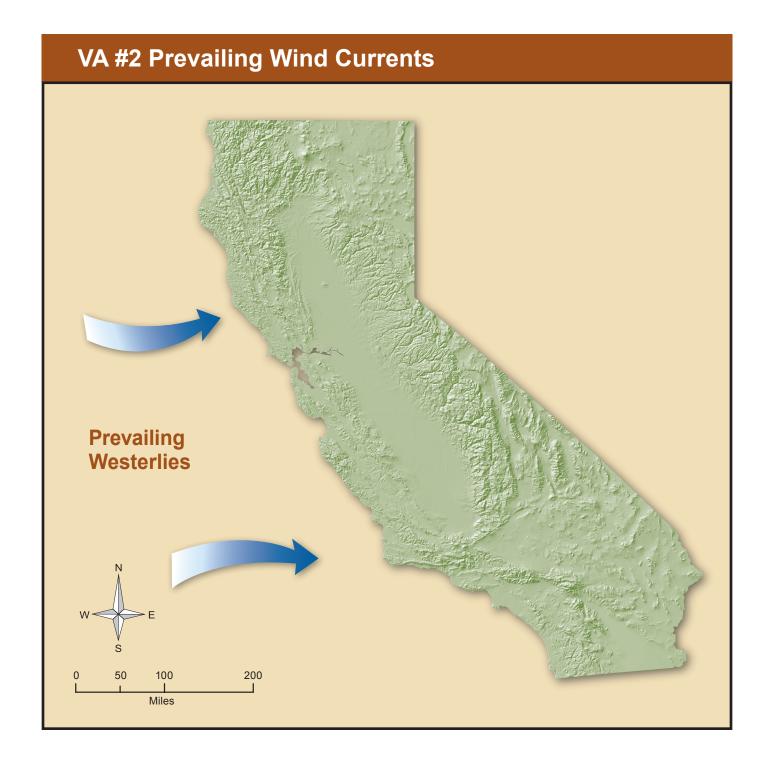


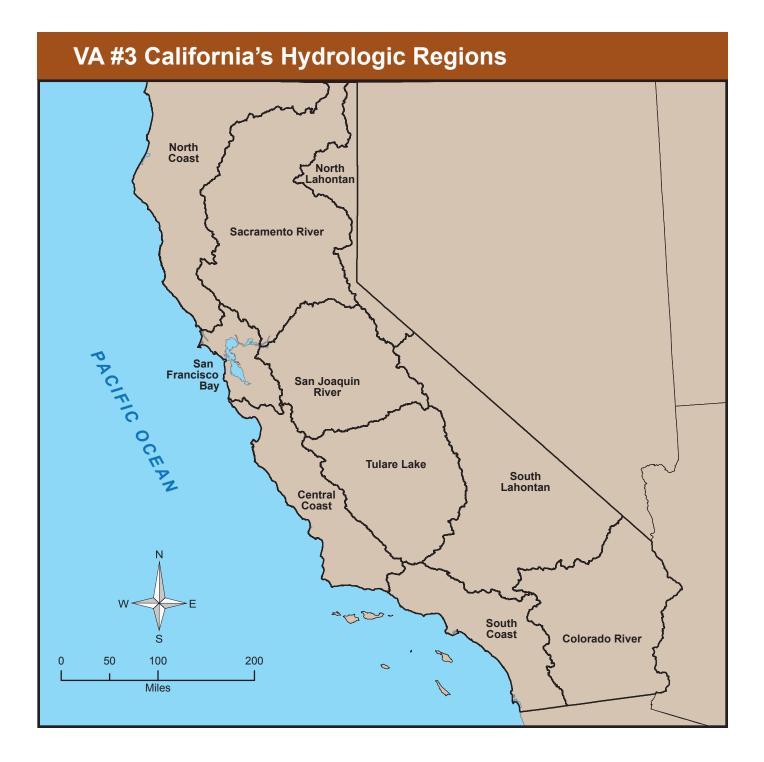
## **Lesson 1** Who's in Charge of the Water?

None required for this lesson.

L	esson 2 Supply and Demand for California's Water
1	Hydrologic Cycle
2	Prevailing Wind Currents
3	California's Hydrologic Regions
L	esson 3 Moving California's Water
4	The California Aqueduct
5	State Water Project. 6
6	Regional Water Transfers
7	Central Valley Project
8	Local Water Projects
L	esson 4 Salt and Smelt—Feeling the Effects of California's Thirst
9	The Delta Smelt and Salty Lands. 10
L	esson 5 The Watery Decisions We Make
10	Delta Vision Recommendations
11	California's Annual Water Budget

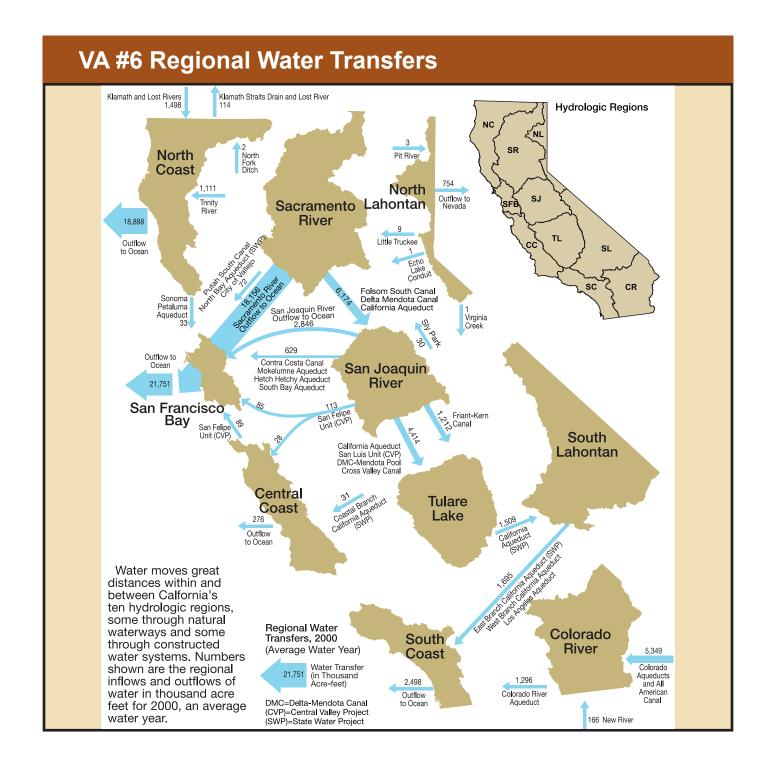














### VA #10 Delta Vision Recommendations

Goal 1: Legally acknowledge the co-equal goals of restoring the Delta ecosystem and creating a more reliable water supply for California.

**Goal 2:** Recognize and enhance the unique cultural, recreational, and agricultural values of the California Delta as an evolving place, an action critical to achieving the co-equal goals.

Goal 3: Restore the Delta ecosystem as the heart of a healthy estuary.

Goal 4: Promote statewide water conservation, efficiency, and sustainable use.

**Goal 5:** Build facilities to improve the existing water conveyance system and expand statewide storage, and operate both to achieve the co-equal goals.

Goal 6: Reduce risks to people, property, and state interests in the Delta by effective emergency preparedness, appropriate land uses, and strategic levee investments.

**Goal 7:** Establish a new governance structure with the authority, responsibility, accountability, scientific support, and secure funding to achieve these goals.

# VA #11 California's Annual Water Budget

California's Water Budget	Quantity of Water					
Precipitation and Imported Water	200 million acre-feet					
Used in Evaporation/Transpiration (plants)	-130 million acre-feet					
Total Runoff	70 million acre-feet					
Available from Runoff	70 million acre-feet					
Outflow to Pacific Ocean	-21 million acre-feet					
Total Runoff Stored in Reservoirs	49 million acre-feet					
Stored in Reservoirs	49 million acre-feet					
Used for Agriculture	- > 20 million acre-feet					
Used for Urban Purposes	- > 5 million acre-feet					
Allocated to Ecosystems (Instream)	- > 25 million acre-feet					

Note: By the year 2030, experts believe that California's water use will increase by 4 million acre-feet. Current precipitation amounts have remained unchanged for thousands of years. In the future, climate change may influence the amount of water produced by natural sources, and Californians should be prepared for less water from natural sources.





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